

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A foam comprising a liquid phase and a gas phase wherein

the liquid phase comprises at least one sclerosing agent and

the gas phase consists essentially of gaseous nitrogen present in an amount ranging from 0.0001% to 0.8% by volume and at least one physiologically acceptable gas.

2. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the gaseous nitrogen is present in an amount ranging from 0.001% to 0.8%.

3. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the gaseous nitrogen is present in an amount ranging from 0.01% to 0.8%.

4. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the gaseous nitrogen is present in an amount ranging from 0.01% to 0.7%.

5. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the gaseous nitrogen is present in an amount ranging from 0.01% to 0.6%.

6. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the at least one other physiologically acceptable gas is chosen from oxygen, carbon dioxide and mixtures thereof.

7. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the foam has a density less than 0.25 g/cm and half life of greater than 100 secs.

8. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the half life is at least 120 seconds.

9. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the half life is at least 150 seconds.

10. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the half life is at least 180 seconds.

11. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the density ranges from 0.07 to 0.22 g/ml.

12. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the density ranges from 0.07 to 0.19 g/ml.

13. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the density ranges from 0.07 to 0.16 g/ml.

14. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the density ranges from 0.08 to 0.14 g/ml.

15. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the at least one sclerosing agent is chosen from polidocanol, glycerol and sodium tetradecyl sulphate.

16. (Previously presented) The foam of claim 1, wherein the at least one sclerosing agent is polidocanol.

17. (Currently amended) The foam of claim 4 16, wherein the polidocanol is present in a concentration ranging from 0.5 to 4% vol/vol in the liquid phase.

18. (Currently amended) A canister, the contents of which consist of a liquid component and a gas component, maintained at above atmospheric pressure, wherein:
the liquid phase comprises at least one sclerosing agent and
the gas phase consisting consists essentially of gaseous nitrogen present in an amount ranging from 0.0001% to 0.8% by volume and at least one physiologically acceptable gas.

19. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 18, further comprising a foam generating element with at least one aperture formed therein, the at least one aperture having maximum dimensions ranging from 0.1 to 200 micron.

20. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 19, wherein the at least one aperture has maximum dimensions ranging from 1 to 50 micron.

21. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 20, wherein the at least one aperture has maximum dimensions ranging from 2 to 30 micron.

22. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 21, wherein the at least one aperture has maximum dimensions ranging from 3 to 10 micron.

23. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 22, wherein the at least one aperture has maximum dimensions of about 5 micron.

24. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 20, wherein the at least one aperture has a maximum dimension of 3 to 10 micron, and wherein the at least one other physiologically acceptable gas is from 1 to 40% carbon dioxide and the remaining gas is substantially oxygen.

25. (Previously presented) The canister of claim 20, wherein the at least one other physiologically acceptable gas is from 10 and 30% carbon dioxide gas and the remaining gas is substantially oxygen.

26. (Currently amended) A method of making a canister of claim 18 comprising:

(a) flushing the canister with a gas mixture essentially comprising the other physiological acceptable gas;

(b) introducing the at least one sclerosing agent sclerosing agent into the canister either before or after step (a);

(c) pressurising the canister to a first predetermined pressure above atmospheric pressure from a source of the other physiological acceptable gas whose level of nitrogen contamination is between 0.0001% and 0.5%;

(d) partially exhausting the contents of the canister, followed by re-pressurising the canister from the same or a different source of the other physiologically acceptable gas whose level of nitrogen contamination is between 0.0001% and 0.5%.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the pressure in the canister is maintained at or above the surrounding atmospheric pressure.

29. (Previously presented) A method for angiologic treatment comprising injecting the foam as described in claim 1 into vessels to be treated.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29 comprising having a patient breathe oxygen or an oxygen enriched atmosphere for a predetermined period prior to injecting the foam.

31. (Currently amended) The method for phlebologic treatment comprising injecting the foam as described in ~~claim~~ claim 1 into vessels to be treated.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 comprising having a patient breathe oxygen or an oxygen enriched atmosphere for a predetermined period prior to injecting the foam.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein substantially the entire greater saphenous vein of one leg of a human patient is treated by a single injection of foam.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the single injection uses an amount ranging from 10ml ~~and to~~ 50ml.

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the single injection uses an amount ranging from 10ml ~~and to~~ 40ml.

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the single injection uses an amount ranging from 15ml ~~and~~ to 30ml.

37. (New) The foam of claim 1, wherein 50% or more by number of gas bubbles of 25 μm diameter and over present in the foam are of no more than 200 μm diameter and at least 95% by number of gas bubbles of 25 μm diameter and over are of no more than 280 μm diameter.

38. (New) The foam of claim 37, wherein at least 50% by number of gas bubbles of 25 μm diameter and over present in the foam are of no more than 150 μm diameter and at least 95% by number of gas bubbles of 25 μm diameter and over are of no more than 250 μm diameter.

39. (New) The foam of claim 1 wherein none of the gas bubbles of the foam is of greater than 500 μm diameter.